



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

St. Croix National Scenic
Riverway

401 N. Hamilton St.
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024
715-483-3284 phone
715-483-3288 fax

Superintendent's Compendium
of Designations, Closures, Permit
Requirements and Other Restrictions Imposed
Under Discretionary Authority

Approved:

Christopher E. Stein 3/18/15
Christopher E. Stein, Superintendent Date

A. INTRODUCTION

1. Superintendent's Compendium Described

The Superintendent's Compendium is the summary of park specific rules implemented under 36 Code of Federal Regulations (36 CFR). It serves as public notice, identifies areas closed for public use, provides a list of activities requiring either a special use permit or reservation, and elaborates on public use and resource protection regulations pertaining specifically to the administration of the park. The Superintendent's Compendium does not repeat regulations found in 36 CFR and other United States Code and CFR Titles, which are enforced without further elaboration at the park level.

The regulations contained in 36 CFR, Parts 1-7, are the basic mechanism used by the National Park Service (NPS) to preserve and protect the natural and cultural resources of the park and to protect visitors and property within the park. Parts 1 through 6 are general regulations applicable to all areas of the National Park system, and Part 7 contains special regulations specific to individual parks. Each of these Parts has many sections and subsections articulating specific provisions. Within some of these Part 1-7 sections and subsections, the Superintendent is granted discretionary authority to develop local rules to be responsive to the needs of a specific park resource or activity, park plan, program, and/or special needs of the general public.

As an example, 36 CFR 1.5(a) *Closures and Public Use Limits* provides the Superintendent certain discretion in allowing or disallowing certain activities. The authority granted by the Section, however, requires the Superintendent to comply with the Administrative Procedures Act (6 USC Section 551), which requires public notice on actions with major impact on visitor use patterns, park resources or those that are highly controversial in nature.

Another example is 36 CFR 1.6 *Permits*, which allows the Superintendent to require a permit for certain uses and activities in the park. This Section, however, requires that a list of activities needing a permit (and a fee schedule for the various types of permits) be maintained by the park.

A final example is 36 CFR 2.1(c) (1) *Preservation of Natural, Cultural and Archeological Resources*, which provides the Superintendent the authority to designate certain fruits, nuts, or

berries which may be gathered by hand for personal use or consumption. This activity can occur, however, only if a written determination shows that the allowed activity does not adversely affect park wildlife, the reproductive potential of a plant species, or otherwise adversely affect park resources.

This Compendium should be used in conjunction with Title 36 CFR, Parts 1-7, to more fully understand the regulations governing the use and enjoyment of all the areas of the National Park System.

A copy of Title 36, CFR, can be purchased from the U.S. Government Printing Office at:

Superintendent of Documents
P.O. Box 371954
Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954

The CFR is also available on the Internet at:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2001-title36-vol1/content-detail.html>

2. Laws and Policies Allowing the Superintendent to Develop This Compendium

The National Park Service (NPS) is granted broad statutory authority under 16 United States Code (U.S.C.) Section 1 *et seq.* (Organic Act of 1916, as amended) to "...regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments, and reservations...by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purposes of the said parks...which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment for future generations" (16 U.S.C. Section 1). In addition, the NPS Organic Act allows the NPS, through the Secretary of the Interior, to "make and publish such rules and regulations as he may deem necessary or proper for the use and management of the parks, monuments, and reservations under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service" (16 U.S.C. Section 3).

In 1970, Congress amended the NPS Organic Act to clarify its intentions as to the overall mission of the NPS. Through the General Authorities Act of 1970 (16 U.S.C. Sections 1a1-1a8), Congress brought all areas administered by the NPS into one National Park System and directed the NPS to manage all areas under its administration consistent with the Organic Act of 1916.

In 1978, Congress amended the General Authorities Act of 1970 and reasserted System-wide the high standard of protection defined in the original Organic Act by stating "Congress further reaffirms, declares, and directs that the promotion and regulation of the various areas of the National Park System, as defined by Section 1 of this Title, shall be consistent with and founded in the purpose established by Section 1 of this Title, to the common benefit of all people of the United States."

16 U.S.C. Section 1c defines the National Park System as "...any area of land and water now or hereafter administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the National Park Service for park, monument, historic, parkway, recreational, or other purposes."

In addition to the above statutory authority, the Superintendent is guided by established NPS policy as found in the *NPS Management Policies* (2006). The Superintendent is also guided by more specific policies promulgated by the Director, National Park Service, in the form of Director's Orders. As stated in the Management Policies, the primary responsibility of the NPS is to protect and preserve our national natural and cultural resources while providing for the enjoyment of these resources by visitor and other users, as long as use does not impair specific park resources or overall visitor experience. The appropriateness of any particular visitor use or recreational experience is resource-based and will vary from park to park; therefore, a use or activity that is appropriate in one park area may not be appropriate in another. The Superintendent is directed to analyze overall park use and determine if any particular use is appropriate. Where conflict arises between use and resource protection, where the Superintendent has a reasonable basis to believe a resource is or would become impaired, than that Superintendent is obliged to place limitations on public use.

3. Consistency of This Compendium with Applicable Federal Law and Requirements

The Superintendent's Compendium is not considered a significant rule requiring review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Order 12866. In addition, this Compendium will not have a significant economic effect on a number of small entities nor impose a significant cost on any local, state or tribal government or private organization, and therefore does not fall under the requirements of either the Regulatory Flexibility Act or the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

The actions and requirements described in this Compendium are found to be categorically excluded from further compliance with the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in Department of the Interior (DOI) Guidelines 516 DM 6 and as such, an Environmental Assessment will not be prepared.

4. Development of the Requirements of the Superintendent's Compendium

As outlined above, the NPS has broad authority and responsibility to determine what types of uses and activities are appropriate in any particular National Park System area. The requirements of the Superintendent's Compendium are developed through an analysis and determination process. The decision criteria used during this process are:

- Is the use or activity consistent with the NPS Organic Act and NPS policy?
- Is the use or activity consistent and compatible with the park's enabling legislation, management objectives, and corresponding management plans?
- Will the use or activity damage the park's protected natural and cultural resources and other protected values?
- Will the use or activity disturb or be in conflict with wildlife, vegetation, and environmental protection actions and values?

- Will the use or activity conflict with or be incompatible with traditional park uses and activities?
- Will the use or activity compromise employee or public safety?

5. Applicability of the Compendium

The rules contained in this Compendium apply to all persons entering, using, visiting or otherwise present on federally owned lands, including submerged lands, and waters administered by the NPS within the legislative boundaries of the park. This includes all waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, including all navigable waters.

6. Enforcement of Compendium Requirements

NPS Law Enforcement Park Rangers enforce the requirements of the United State Code, 36 CFR, and this Superintendent's Compendium.

7. Penalties for Not Adhering to the Compendium Requirements

A person who violates any provision of the regulations found in 36 CFR, Parts 1-7, or provisions of this Compendium, is subject to a fine as provided by law (18 U.S.C. 3571) up to \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, or by imprisonment not exceeding six months (18 U.S.C. 3559), or both, and shall be adjudged to pay all court costs associated with any court proceedings. You may receive a list of fines associated with any particular provision by contacting the Chief Ranger at the park address found below.

8. Comments on the Compendium

The Compendium is reviewed annually and revised as necessary. The park welcomes comments about its program and activities at any time.

Written comments on the Compendium may be submitted to:

Superintendent
St. Croix National Scenic Riverway
401 N. Hamilton Street
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024

9. Effective Date of the Superintendent Compendium

The Superintendent's Compendium is effective on the approval date listed on the first page of this document, and remains in effect until revised for a period up to one year.

10. Additional Information

Some of the terms used in this Compendium may have specific meaning defined in 36 CFR 1.4

Definitions.

11. Availability

Copies of the Compendium are available at 401 N. Hamilton St, St. Croix Falls, WI. It may also be found at <http://www.nps.gov/sacn/index.htm>.

B. SUPERINTENDENT’S COMPENDIUM

In accordance with regulations and the delegated authority provided in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations (“36 CFR”), Chapter 1, Parts 1-7, authorized by Title 16 United States Code, Section 3, the following provisions apply to all lands and waters administered by the National Park Service, within the boundaries of St. Croix National Scenic Riverway. Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the requirements contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1, Parts 1-7.

Written determinations, which explain the reasoning behind the Superintendent’s use of discretionary authority, as required by Section 1.5(c), appear in this document identified by italicized print.

I. 36 CFR §1.5 – VISITING HOURS, PUBLIC USE LIMITS, CLOSURES, AND AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR SPECIFIC USE OR ACTIVITIES

Note: Violations under this section should be cited under §1.5(f).

(a)(1) The following visiting hours and public use limits are established for all or for the listed portions of the park, and the following closures are established for all or a portion of the park to all public use or to a certain use or activity:

Visiting Hours:

- Osceola Day Use Picnic Area – The Osceola Day Use Picnic Area roadway and parking lots are closed for public use between sundown and sunrise daily. The Osceola Day Use Picnic Area is located on Highway 243 across the St. Croix River from Osceola, Wisconsin.

Determination: Due to a history of vandalism and other crimes the area poses a safety concern for visitors during the hours of darkness, spring through fall.

- The Fairy Falls Day Use Area (LOSA Tracts 13-135 and 136) is open for public use between Sunrise and Sunset daily. The Fairy Falls Day Use Area is located near the City of Stillwater, Minnesota and on the west side of Highway 95 in Stillwater Township, Washington County, Minnesota.

Determination: Due to substantial cliffs closely associated with unmaintained trails, the area poses a substantial safety concern for visitors during hours of darkness.

- The Arcola Bluffs Day Use Area (Foster Property LOSA Tracts 11-121, 123, 124, 126, 130 and 154) is open for public use between the hours of Sunrise and Sunset daily. The Arcola Bluffs Day Use Area is located east of Highway 95 along the Arcola Trail north of Stillwater, Minnesota in Stillwater Township, Washington County, Minnesota.

Determination: Due to steep banks, unmaintained trails, and a major bridged railroad, the area poses a substantial safety concern for visitors during hours of darkness.

Public Use Limits:

- Hunting

Hunting is limited in these specific conditions and locations:

- The Fairy Falls Day Use Area (LOSA Tracts 13-135 and 136) is open to deer archery hunting only. The Fairy Falls Day Use Area is located near the City of Stillwater, Minnesota and on the west side of Highway 95 in Stillwater Township, Washington County, Minnesota.

Determination: This area has restricted hunting use to archery only due to the close proximity and limited visibility of the residential area surrounding this entire area.

- The Arcola Bluffs Day Use Area (LOSA Tracts 11-121, 123, 124, 126, 130 and 154) is open to deer archery and firearms hunting only. The Arcola Bluffs Day Use Area is located east of Highway 95 along the Arcola Trail north of Stillwater, Minnesota in Stillwater Township, Washington County, Minnesota.

Determination: This area has restricted hunting use to these seasons only due to the close proximity and limited visibility of the residential area surrounding this entire area and the number of safety related complaints from local residents.

Closures:

- Maintenance Facilities:

All park maintenance facility compounds are closed to public use (County Road S near Osceola, Wisconsin, the Marshland maintenance compound on Highway 70 near Pine City, Minnesota and behind the Namekagon River Visitor Center in Trego, Wisconsin).

Determination: These areas are closed due to safety concerns for the general public from heavy equipment use in confined areas.

- Hunting

Hunting is prohibited in the following areas:

- All of LOSA Tracts 13-107, 13-113, 13-123, 13-124, and 13-133, located near the City of Stillwater, Minnesota and along Highway 95 in Stillwater Township, Washington County, Minnesota.

Determination: This closure is due to this areas close proximity to high use recreational areas where accidental interface between hunters and other recreational users may likely result in unintentional injuries.

- Part of SACN Tract 49-160, located adjacent to Camp Sunrise in Chisago County, Minnesota.

Determination: This closure is due to this areas close proximity to a high use recreational area where accidental interface between hunters and other recreational users may likely result in unintentional injuries.

- All of SACN Tract 54-108, located adjacent to Wild River State Park in Chisago County, Minnesota.

Determination: This closure is due to this areas close proximity to a high use recreational area where accidental interface between hunters and other recreational users may likely result in unintentional injuries.

- All of SACN Tract 56-126 west of Highway 16 adjacent to Wild Mountain Recreation Area in Chisago County, Minnesota.

Determination: This closure is due to this areas close proximity to a high use recreational area where accidental interface between hunters and other recreational users may likely result in unintentional injuries.

- All of SACN Tracts 05-136 and 05-102 east of Mossback Road and north of Mossback Landing Road

Determination: This closure is due to this areas close proximity to private property and residences, where accidental interface between hunters and residents has resulted in unintentional but consistent damage to private property.

- Target Practice or sighting in of weapons is prohibited
- Launching, landing, or operating an unmanned aircraft from or on lands and waters administered by the National Park Service within the boundaries of the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway is prohibited except as approved in writing by the superintendent.

Definition: The term “unmanned aircraft” means a device that is used or intended to be used for flight in the air without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the device, and the associated operational elements and components that are required for the pilot or system operator in command to operate or control the device (such as cameras, sensors,

communication links.) This term includes all types of devices that meet this definition (e.g. model airplanes, quadcopters, drones) that are used for any purpose, including for recreation or commerce.

Determination: Until the NPS can determine whether specific uses of unmanned aircraft are appropriate and will not cause unacceptable impacts on park resources and values, "Our Park" is closed to the use of these devices. The use of unmanned aircraft within the boundaries of "Our Park" has the potential to harm visitors, disturb wildlife, impact viewsheds, cause excessive noise, and interfere with other visitors' enjoyment of the area. This closure is being implemented as an interim measure while this new use can be properly evaluated. A less restrictive approach is not appropriate at this time due to the impacts the devices could potentially present to visitor safety, park values, and to park resources. The interim closure will safeguard these values while the NPS considers how to address this new use on a long-term basis.

Geocaching

Geocaching anywhere within the ordinary high water mark along the St. Croix River from Stillwater, MN north to the Gordon Dam in Wisconsin or along the Namekagon River from its confluence with the St. Croix River to the Namekagon Dam near Cable, Wisconsin, or on any lands owned or administered by the National Park Service is prohibited.

Determination: Park Management has conducted a review of geocaching activities and is concerned about rare and endangered plants and numerous Native American Burial Mounds that may be damaged by trails created by geocaching activity. Since adjacent state parks allow geocaching and there is concern for endangered plants and burial mounds the Superintendent prohibits geocaching on National Park Service land.

Paint-balling

The possession and/or use of a paint-ball guns, or similar devices, are prohibited on all park service property.

Determination: This closure is because of problems with littering left behind by the paint ball projectiles and defacement of trees, rocks, park signs and trails left behind by the paint ball markings.

II. 36 CFR §1.6 – ACTIVITIES THAT REQUIRE A PERMIT

(f) The following is a compilation of those activities for which a permit from the superintendent is required:

- §1.5(d) The following activities related to Public Use Limits:
- §2.4(d) Carry or possess a trap, or net.

- §2.5(a) Specimen collection (Take plant, fish, wildlife, rocks or minerals)
 - For any research specimen collection the collector must be in possession of a permit issued by St. Croix National Scenic Riverway
- §2.10(a) The following camping activities:
 - Camping Permit for overnight camping from Highway 8 (mile 52.5) to Soo Line High Bridge.
 - Group Camping Permit (reservation only) at Catfish Slough Educational Group Site at Osceola Landing.
- §2.12 Audio Disturbances:
 - (a)(2) Operating a chain saw on federal property anywhere in the park.
 - (a)(4) Operation of a public address system in connection with a public gathering or special event for which a permit has been issued pursuant to §2.50 or §2.51
- §2.17 Aircraft & Air Delivery:
 - (a)(3) Delivery or retrieval of a person or object by parachute, helicopter or other airborne means
 - (c)(1) Removal of a downed aircraft
- §2.37 Soliciting or demanding gifts, money goods or services (Pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit issued under §2.50, §2.51 or §2.52)
- §2.38 Explosives:
 - Use, possess, store, transport explosives, blasting agents
 - Use or possess fireworks
- §2.50(a) Conduct a sports event, pageant, regatta, public spectator attraction, entertainment, ceremony, and similar events
- §2.51(a) Public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, parades and other public expressions of views
- §2.52(c) Sale or distribution of printer matter that is not solely commercial advertising
- §2.60(b) Livestock use
 - Grazing and agricultural use - 36 CFR 2.60(b)
- §2.61(a) Residing on federal lands
- §2.62 Memorialization:
 - Erection of monuments (Requires approval from Regional Director)
 - Scattering ashes from human cremation
- §4.11(a) Exceeding of established vehicle load, weight and size limits

- §5.1 Advertisements - (Display, posting or distribution.)
- §5.3 Engaging in or soliciting any business (Requires a permit, contract or other written agreement with the United States, or must be pursuant to special regulations).
- §5.5 Commercial Photography/Filming:
 - Commercial filming of motion pictures or television involving the use of professional casts, settings or crews, other than bona fide newsreel or news television
 - Still photography of any kind for the purpose of commercial advertising.
- §5.6(c) Use of commercial vehicles on park area roads (The superintendent shall issue a permit to access private lands within or adjacent to the park when access is otherwise not available)
- §5.7 Construction of buildings, facilities, trails, roads, boat docks, path, structure, etc.
 - Construction activities including buildings, docks, roads, trails, paths, other ways, telephone lines, power lines, and other public and private utilities.
- Part 7 Special Regulations
 - Vessel passing upstream of the High Bridge (mile 28.5) - 36 CFR 3.3 & 7.9 (c)(2)

III. GENERAL REGULATIONS

36 CFR §2.1 – PRESERVATION OF NATURAL, CULTURAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

(a)(4) Dead wood on the ground may be collected for use as fuel for campfires within the park in the following areas:

- All areas in the park with the following exceptions:
 - Areas adjacent to any park administrative facility including any park offices, visitor centers, or maintenance facilities and compounds
 - All islands
 - The shore line between the Soo Line High Bridge and Boom Site Landing
 - Cutting live or dead standing trees is prohibited except by written agreement of the Superintendent under the terms of a use and occupancy lease, residing-in-the-park special use permit, or scenic, riverfront or conservation easement.

(c)(1), (c)(2) The following fruits, nuts, or berries may be gathered by hand for personal use or consumption, in accordance with the noted size, quantity, collection sites and/or use or consumption restrictions:

- The following fruits, nuts, and berries may be gathered for onsite consumption:
 - Apples
 - Asparagus
 - Blackberries

- Black cherries
 - Blueberries
 - Chokecherries
 - Cranberries
 - Currants
 - Elderberries
 - Filberts
 - Gooseberries
 - Hawthorne
 - Hazel nuts
 - Juneberries
 - Mushrooms
 - Pin cherries
 - Raspberries
 - Rhubarb
 - Rose hips
 - Strawberries
 - Viburnum fruits
 - Walnuts
 - Wild plum
 - *Wild rice may be gathered and removed from the park in accordance with appropriate state law.
- Tapping of maple trees, or any other tree species, for sap is prohibited.
 - The gathering and use of all live and dead mussels and empty mussel shells is prohibited.
 - The subsistence gathering and removal of fruits, berries, nuts and other vegetation by Native American Indians for personal use is allowed in accordance with applicable treaties and tribal rules and regulations.
 - The picking of and/or collection of wildflowers is prohibited.

36 CFR §2.2 - WILDLIFE PROTECTION

(e) The following areas are closed to the viewing of wildlife with the use of an artificial light:

- Wildlife viewing or hunting with any type of artificial light (including laser sights for bow or firearm) is prohibited in the park, except while shooting raccoon, fox or an unprotected species at the point of kill while hunting on foot in accordance with applicable state laws.

36 CFR §2.3 – FISHING

(a) The following State fishing laws and/or regulations, as noted, do not apply in the listed areas:

- The small pond located at park headquarters in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin is closed to all fishing

(d)(2) Possession or use of live or dead minnows or other bait fish, amphibian, non-preserved fish eggs or roe is permitted in the following fresh water areas:

- The use of non-native bait is permitted in accordance with applicable Federal, state and tribal laws and regulations. However, the dumping or release of live bait into the St. Croix or Namekagon Rivers is prohibited.
- The use of live crayfish as bait on the St. Croix and Namekagon Rivers is prohibited.
- The taking of minnows by any means for any reason, commercial or personal, is prohibited in the St. Croix River south of the Xcel Energy dam at St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin.

36 CFR §2.10 – CAMPING and FOOD STORAGE

(a) The sites and areas listed below have been designated for camping activities as noted. A permit system has been established for certain campgrounds or camping activities, and conditions for camping and camping activities are in effect as noted:

Camping is allowed in the park in accordance with the regulations found in 36 CFR 2.10 *Camping and food storage*, with the following special conditions:

Conditions:

- **Upper St. Croix and Namekagon Rivers**

Camping along the St. Croix River from the Xcel (NSP) Dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylors Falls (mile 53) upstream to the Gordon Dam and along the entire Namekagon River is limited to designated sites only. Length of stay for any particular campsite is three nights; all campsites must be vacated by noon the day after the last night's stay. The maximum length of stay on the St. Croix River and Namekagon River is 30 days annually. Campsites accommodate up to 8 people and 3 tents. Group sites accommodate up to 16 people and 6 tents.

Howell Landing and West Howell landing are considered to be one site.

From the Xcel (NSP) dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylors Falls upstream to Nevers Dam, self-contained vessels may tie up for night anchorage anywhere along the shoreline except at designated campsites and on private property. Passengers on self-contained vessels must use on-board toilet facilities and may not build campfires or erect tents on the shore.

- **Lower St. Croix River**

From Franconia Landing to the Soo Line (Arcola) High Bridge

Camping on NPS lands from US Highway 8 at Taylors Falls, MN – St. Croix Falls, WI to the Soo Line (Arcola) High Bridge (river mile s29.5) is permitted with a free annual permit issued from the NPS Visitor Center in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin. Camping is restricted to designated individual and group sites on the main channel. A designated site is a site marked with a sign and contains a steel fire ring provided by the park. Campfires are permitted only in the provided metal fire ring. Individual sites accommodate up to 8 people and 3 tents or 16 people and 6 tents. Campers are required to possess and use portable toilets or on-board facilities on self-contained boats at these campsites. Campsites must be occupied on the first night of stay with the Camping Permit clearly posted on the tent. A site can be occupied by the same individual or group for a maximum of 3 consecutive days and cumulatively for 30 days annually. Park Rangers check campsites on a regular basis. Unoccupied campsites will be marked with an orange tag and rechecked 24 hours later. If the site still appears unoccupied, the NPS will remove all equipment.

From the Soo (Arcola) Line High Bridge to north Stillwater (Boom Site Landing)

Camping from the Soo Line (Arcola) High Bridge to north Stillwater is limited to islands only. Areas suitable for camping are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. All users are required to possess and use portable toilets or on-board facilities on self-contained boats unless they are on Mile Long Island or Pillar Island where floating toilets are provided. Tents must be occupied on the first night of stay. A site can be occupied by the same individual or group for a maximum of 7 consecutive days and cumulatively for 30 days annually. Park Rangers check tents on a regular basis. Unoccupied tents will be marked with an orange tag and rechecked 24 hours later. If the site still appears unoccupied, the NPS will remove all the equipment.

Osceola Landing

Group Camping (by reservation only), at Catfish Slough Educational Group Site.

Camping is prohibited where posted as "*no camping*" or "*area closed for restoration*" and in the following locations:

- The Osceola Landing Picnic Area.

36 CFR §2.11 – PICNICKING

Certain areas have been closed to picnicking and are listed in section 1.5(a)(1) "Closures".

- On Federally owned lands under the terms of a use and occupancy lease or residing-in-the-park special use permit, without prior approval of the legal occupant.

*Note: The picnic shelters at the Osceola Landing Picnic Area are available for reservation by calling our visitor center. When not reserved they are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

36 CFR 2.13 – FIRES

(a)(1) The lighting or maintaining of fires is generally prohibited, except as provided for in the following designated areas and/or receptacles, and under the conditions noted:

Designated Areas:

- Campfires are permitted at designated campsites only and must be contained in the provided fire ring. Cook-fires are permitted in designated picnic areas and must be contained in the provided grills, or in a portable grill or stove brought to the park by an individual. Constructing a rock-ring, or lighting a fire in a rock-ring, is prohibited except on the islands below the Soo Line High Bridge.

Established Conditions for Fires:

- During periods of elevated fire danger open fires will be prohibited in accordance with appropriate State and local fire bans. Notice of any fire restriction will be posted at all visitor centers, landings, and other major public use facilities. Smoking is not allowed during posted fire bans.

(b) Fires must be extinguished according to the following conditions:

- No fire shall be left unattended. All campfires and cook-fires will be out and cold before any site is permanently vacated or simply left for the day.

36 CFR §2.14 – SANITATION and REFUSE

(a)(2) The use of government refuse receptacles or facilities for dumping household, commercial or industrial refuse, brought as such from private or municipal property is allowed under the following conditions:

- All refuse will be removed from the park by park users in accordance with the park's carry in, carry out policy. Leaving of refuse in the park is prohibited.

(b) Conditions for the disposal, containerization, or carryout of human body waste have been established as follows:

- Where a pit toilet is not provided or available, human waste must be buried at least 6 inches underground and a minimum of 100 feet from any water source, high water mark, trail or other developed facility. Portable toilets are required to be possessed and used by campers from Franconia Landing to north Stillwater (Boom Site Landing) or on-board facilities on self-contained boats unless they are on Mile Long Island or Pillar island when NPS floating toilets are provided.

36 CFR §2.15 – PETS

(a)(1) The following structures and/or areas are closed to the possession of pets:

- Pets are not allowed in any public building or office, except for service animals.
- Pets are allowed in all other areas of the park as long as they are on a leash no longer than six feet in length.

((a)(5) Pet excrement must be disposed of in accordance with the following conditions:

- Persons in the park must promptly dispose of all pet excrement. Excrement must be gathered up and removed from the park, or buried at least six inches underground and 100 feet from any trail, campsite, building, picnic area, landing, or water source.

(e) Pets may be kept by park residents under the following conditions:

- Government quarters and other federally owned structures and lands used under the terms of a use and occupancy lease or residing-in-the-park special use permit
- Pets are not allowed in seasonal government quarters, except by written permission of the Superintendent. When multiple occupancies of quarters exist, pets are prohibited.
- Up to five pets are allowed on federally owned lands and in federally owned buildings under the terms of a use and occupancy lease or a residing-in-the-park special use permit by the legal occupant pursuant to the terms of the lease or permit.

36 CFR §2.16 – HORSES and PACK ANIMALS

(b) The use of horses or pack animals is allowed on the following trails, routes or areas:

- The use of pack animals in the park is prohibited.

(g) Other conditions concerning the use of horses or pack animals:

- Day use of riding horses is permitted on the Sandrock Cliff Trail between the Highway 70 Landing and the Sandrock Cliff parking lot in Wisconsin. Horses are not allowed in the Sandrock Cliff camping or picnic area. These trails are not maintained to NPS standards for horseback riding use. All horseback use is at the risk of the owner/rider.
- Day use of riding horses is permitted on the trails in the Arcola Bluffs Day Use Area unless otherwise posted as closed for restoration purposes. Currently, there is an area posted as “Closed to Horses”, to prevent the introduction of weed seeds. These trails are not maintained to NPS standards for horseback riding use. All horseback use is at the risk of the owner/rider.
- Horse use is prohibited on all other park trails in both Minnesota and Wisconsin, including the St. Croix Trail through the park in Minnesota.

36 CFR §2.18 – SNOWMOBILES

(c) Snowmobiles may be operated only on routes designated in section 7.**

Snowmobile use is allowed on the frozen surface of the St. Croix River and on designated trails and river crossings in accordance with this Section and 36 CFR 2.18, and in accordance with applicable non-conflicting State and local laws and regulations, except:

- On the St. Croix River from the Highway 243 Bridge at Osceola, Wisconsin north to the Xcel (NSP) Hydroelectric Dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylors Falls
- On the St. Croix River from the Highway 35 Bridge at Riverside north to the Gordon Dam
- Hayward flowage, Trego flowage, Pacwawong
- Snowmobile use on the Namekagon River is prohibited except at designated river crossings.
- Snowmobile speed within the park is 45 mph unless otherwise posted.

36 CFR §2.19 – WINTER ACTIVITIES

(a) The following park roads and/or parking areas open to motor vehicle traffic may be used for skiing, snowshoeing, ice skating, inner tubing, tobogganing, and similar winter activities under the conditions noted:

- All traditional winter activities including cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, ice fishing, and winter camping are allowed in the park. Camping will be in accordance with 36 CFR 2.10 and the special conditions found in this Compendium. Please note the special conditions found in Section 2.22 regarding the construction of ice fishing structures.
- Snowshoeing on groomed cross-country ski trails is prohibited.

36 CFR §2.21 – SMOKING

(a) The following portions of the park, or all or portions of buildings, structures or facilities are closed to smoking as noted:

*Smoking in any park owned or leased building, vehicle, vessel or park land during posted fire bans is prohibited except:

- In any building covered by a use and occupancy lease or residing-in-the-park special use permit with permission of the legal occupant.

36 CFR §2.22 – PROPERTY

(a)(2) Property may be left unattended for periods longer than 24 hours in the following areas and under the following conditions:

- Structures used for fishing during ice fishing season may be left on the ice for more than 24 hours in accordance with applicable State laws and regulations.
- Visitors camping in the park may leave their vehicles and boat trailers unattended for more than 24 hours at designated parking areas.

36 CFR §2.35 –ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES and CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

(a)(3)(i) The following public use areas, portions of public use areas, and/or public facilities within the park are closed to consumption of alcoholic beverages, and/or to the possession of a bottle, can or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage that is open, or has been opened, or whose seal has been broken or the contents of which have been partially removed:

- The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages at the Osceola Day Use Picnic Area and Landing, Eagles Nest Campsites (mile 48.5), in the area known as Fairy Falls Day Use Area (LOSA Tract 13-136) and in the area known as the Arcola Bluff Day Use Area (LOSA Tracts 11-121, 123, 124, 126, 130 and 134) is prohibited.
- The consumption of alcoholic beverages in any park owned or leased building, vehicle, or vessel is prohibited except:
- The consumption of alcoholic beverages is allowed in any building covered by a use and occupancy lease or residing-in-the-park special use permit with permission of the legal occupant and in employee residences.

36 CFR §2.62 – MEMORIALIZATION

(b) With the approval of the Park Superintendent, a permit may be obtained for the scattering of ashes from cremated human remains on St. Croix National Scenic Riverway property.

36 CFR §3.3 – VESSEL PERMITS

Permits are required for the use of a vessel in the following areas:

- Travel on the St. Croix River by vessel from the south upstream past the High Bridge (mile 29.5) towards the Xcel (NSP) dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylor Falls, except under the terms and conditions of a permit, is prohibited.

36 CFR §3.7 – PERSONAL FLOATATION DEVICE

- In addition to all U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) requirements found in Title 33 Code of Federal Regulations part 175, children under the age of 13 are required to wear a USCG approved PFD while on or operating any watercraft on the water, to include non-tradition self-propelled watercraft such as float tubes, inner tubes, inflatable rafts that one lies on or any homemade device that floats and is used for transportation downstream with the current.

36 CFR §3.12– WATER SKIING

(a) The towing of persons by vessels is allowed in the following areas under the terms and conditions noted:

Water-skiing is permitted in accordance with state and local laws and regulations in the following areas:

- On the St. Croix River from the north city limits of Stillwater, Minnesota upstream to the Soo Line High Bridge(Mile 29.5); from May 15 through September 15 water-skiing in this area is prohibited after noon on Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays. Water-skiing at any time in designated slow/no wake zones is prohibited.
- On the St. Croix River from the Xcel (NSP) Hydroelectric Dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylors Falls upstream to the Nevers Dam Landing (Indianhead Flowage)
- On the Namekagon River from the Trego Dam upstream to the Highway 53 Bridge (Trego Flowage)
- On the Namekagon River from the Hayward Dam upstream to the Highway 77 bridge (Hayward Flowage)

36 CFR §3.16 – SWIMMING AND BATHING

Swimming is allowed anywhere in the riverway except for the following.

- Swimming is prohibited in the St. Croix River downstream from the Highway 8 Bridge to the public boat launch at Wisconsin Interstate State Park.
- Swimming in the St. Croix River adjacent to Minnesota Interstate State Park is also prohibited in accordance with Minnesota regulations.

ADVISORY - Swimming in the St. Croix River from the Xcel (NSP) Hydroelectric Dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylors Falls downstream to the Highway 8 Bridge is not recommended due to fluctuating water levels and strong currents.

Jumping or diving into the river from any vertical cliff, tree, swing-rope, bridge or other structure, except from private property with permission of the landowner, is prohibited.

36 CFR §3.17 – SWIMMING AREAS

(b) The use of floatation devices, glass containers, kites, or incompatible sporting activities is not permitted on the following swimming beaches, as noted:

- **Glass containers are prohibited at the following designated Swimming areas**
Namekagon Dam Landing, County M Landing, Cap Creek Landing, Phillipi Bridge Landing, Cable Wayside & Landing, Pacawawong Flowage Landing, Thompson Bridge Landing, Larsen Bridge Landing, Phipps Landing and Camp, Trout Run Landing, Hayward Lake Landing, Hayward DNR Landing and Camp, West River Landing, Stinnet Landing, Groat Landing, North Springbrook Landing, Springbrook Landing, Earl Park

Camp and Landing, Namekagon VC Landing, Trego Lake Landing, County K Landing, Howell Camp and Landing, West Howell Camp and Landing, Fritz Landing, McDowell Bridge Landing, Nam Trail Bridge Landing, County T Landing, Louise Park Landing, Schoen Park Landing and Camp, Dry Landing, CCC Bridge Landing, Riverside Landing and Camp, Pansy Landing, Yellow River Landing, Matrious Landing, Thayers Landing, St. Johns Landing, Little Yellow Banks Landing, St. Croix SP Main Landing, Norway Point Landing and Camp, Head of the Rapids Landing, Nelsons Landing and Camp, Fox Landing, Snake River Landing, Soderback Landing, Sandrock Cliffs Campground, Marshland Landing, Highway 70 Landing, Raspberry Landing, Stevens Creek Landing, Pearl Springs, Old Railroad Landing and Camp, Rush City Ferry Landing, County O Landing and Camp, Landers Landing, Sunrise Ferry Landing and Camp, Nevers Dam Landing and Camp, Wild River Landing, Spangler's Landing, Lions Park Landing (MN) and (WI), St. Croix River VC, MN Interstate SP Landing, WI Interstate SP Landing, Franconia Landing, Osceola Landing and Day Use Area, Eagles Nest, Swing Bridge, 50th Street Landing, Log House Landing, Somerset Landing, William O'Brien SP Landing, Twin Springs Landing, High Bridge Island, Pillar Island, Anderson Island, Mile Long Island, **Excluded are glass containers in vehicles and vessels.**

36 CFR §4.30 – BICYCLES

(a) Park roads and parking areas that are closed to bicycle use are listed in section 1.5 of this document.

Bicycles and other non-motorized means of conveyance are permitted on established park roads and parking lots in accordance with applicable State and local laws and regulations. Operation of a bicycle or other similar non-motorized conveyance on park trails except under the terms of a Special Use Permit is prohibited.